REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9-27 are canceled. Claims 1-8 are pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments comply with requirements of form and thus may be admitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b). Alternatively, if these amendments are deemed to touch the merits, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(c). In this connection, these amendments were not earlier presented because they are in response to the matters pointed out for the first time in the Final Office Action.

Lastly, admission is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) as presenting rejected claims in better form for consideration on appeal.

Claims 1-8 are allowed. Claims 9-13 and 21-27 are rejected. Claims 14-20 have been previously canceled. To obtain speedy allowance of the case, the applicant cancels claims 9-13 and 21-27 without prejudice.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 337-6849 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Appl. Ser. No. 09/885,499 Amdt. Dated February 17, 2005 Reply to Office Action of October 19, 2005

PATENT Atty. Dkt. No. 83336.0001 Customer No. 26021

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-1314.

Respectfully submitted,

HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: February 17, 2005

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